



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

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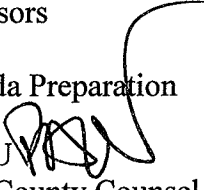
MARK J. SALADINO
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April 22, 2015

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TO: PATRICK OGAWA
Acting Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors

Attention: Agenda Preparation

FROM: PATRICK A. WU 
Senior Assistant County Counsel
Executive Office

RE: **Item for the Board of Supervisors' Agenda**
County Claims Board Recommendation
Robert Dominguez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. YC 066 945

Attached is the Agenda entry for the Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation regarding the above-referenced matter. Also attached are the Case Summary and the Summary Corrective Action Plan to be made available to the public.

It is requested that this recommendation, the Case Summary, and the Summary Corrective Action Plan be placed on the Board of Supervisors' agenda.

PAW:cs

Attachments

Board Agenda

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation: Authorize settlement of the matter entitled Robert Dominguez v. County of Los Angeles, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. YC 066 945, in the amount of \$450,000 and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Department of Children and Family Services' budget.

This lawsuit alleges a breach of mandatory duties by the Department of Children and Family Services, which contributed to the death of a minor.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Robert Dominguez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	YC 066945
COURT	Los Angeles Central Court
DATE FILED	April 20, 2012
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Children and Family Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 450,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Andrew Ritholz Law Office of Andrew Ritholz, Inc.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Lauren Black Principal Deputy County Counsel Avi Burkwitz Peterson Bradford Burkwitz LLP
NATURE OF CASE	Wrongful Death, Breach of Mandatory Duties.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 232,584
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 15,055



Summary Corrective Action Plan

The intent of this form is to assist departments in writing a corrective action plan summary for attachment to the settlement documents developed for the Board of Supervisors and/or the County of Los Angeles Claims Board. The summary should be a specific overview of the claims/lawsuits' identified root causes and corrective actions (status, time frame, and responsible party). This summary does not replace the Corrective Action Plan form. If there is a question related to confidentiality, please consult County Counsel.

Date of incident/event:	March 3, 2011
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	Minor was murdered by his mother's boyfriend while the mother was out of the home.

1. Briefly describe the root cause(s) of the claim/lawsuit:


Minor's mother allowed her violent boyfriend to reside in the home along with her children and was not truthful when the social worker questioned her about the living arrangements. The child was murdered while the mother was out of the home running errands.

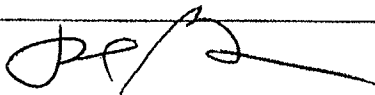
2. Briefly describe recommended corrective actions:
(Include each corrective action, due date, responsible party, and any disciplinary actions if appropriate)

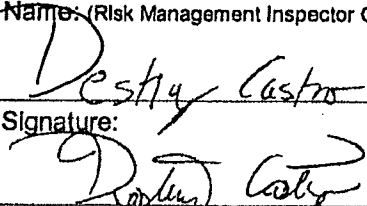
The department had appropriate policies and procedures in place at the time of the incident. All appropriate personnel actions have been undertaken.

3. Are the corrective actions addressing department-wide system issues?

- ☐ Yes – The corrective actions address department-wide system issues.
☒ No – The corrective actions are only applicable to the affected parties.

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator)	
Diane Iglesias, Senior Deputy Director	
Signature: 	Date: 3-10-15

Name: (Department Head)	
PHILIP L. BROWNING	
Signature: 	Date: 3-10-15

Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY	
Are the corrective actions applicable to other departments within the County?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the corrective actions potentially have County-wide applicability. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, the corrective actions are applicable only to this department.	
Name: (Risk Management Inspector General)	
Signature: 	Date: 2/23/2015